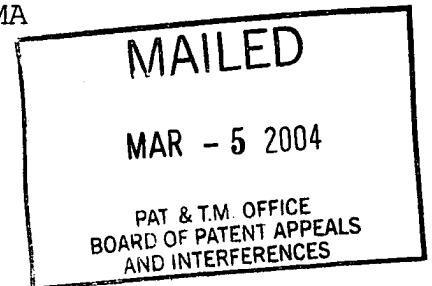


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte SHUSOU WADAKA, KOICHIRO MISU, TSUTOMU NAGATSUKA,
TOMONORI KIMURA, and SHUMPEI KAMEYAMA

Application No. 09/202,070



ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on February 9, 2004. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being electronically returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

On February 3, 1999, appellants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS). It is not clear from the record whether the examiner considered the IDS submitted or whether the examiner notified appellants of why their submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Application No. 09/202,070

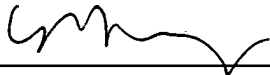
Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that this application be electronically returned to the examiner for: 1) consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement; 2) appropriate notification by the examiner to appellants of such consideration; and 3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the status of this appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By: _____


Craig R. Feinberg
Program and Resource Administrator
(703) 308-9797

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CRF/tdl/lc
RA04-0292